



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503



August 18, 1989

BULLETIN NO. 89-15

TO THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ESTABLISHMENTS

SUBJECT: Report on Obligations for Government Information
Dissemination Products and Services

1. Purpose. This Bulletin provides instructions and materials for submitting the Report on Obligations for Government Information Dissemination Products and Services for Fiscal Year 1989. The report is a partial extension of information previously required under OMB Bulletin No. 88-10.

2. Background. Section 1108 of Title 44 stipulates that the heads of executive departments, independent agencies, and establishments may use appropriated funds for the printing of periodicals with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB Circular No. A-3, Government Publications (revised May 2, 1985), which implements this provision of Title 44, requires agencies to report annually on periodicals and non-recurring publications and to maintain an OMB-approved control system.

On January 4, 1989, and on June 15, 1989, OMB published in the Federal Register notices for comment that proposed certain changes to OMB Circular No. A-3. Pertinent excerpts from the notice of June 15, 1989, are found in the attachment to this Bulletin.

3. Coverage. The requirements of this Bulletin apply to all departments, independent agencies, and establishments of the executive branch of the government.

4. Changes from Previous Years. Consistent with the Federal Register notice of June 15, 1989, this Bulletin reflects the following changes:

a. Intent to Revise OMB Circular No. A-130 and Rescind OMB Circular No. A-3. OMB intends to revise OMB Circular No. A-130 so as to incorporate certain portions of OMB Circular No. A-3, and to rescind OMB Circular No. A-3 as a separate Circular. The function of managing government publications will become part of management of government information resources. The reason is that a basic purpose of the Paperwork Reduction Act is to coordinate, integrate, and make uniform Federal information policies and practices (44 U.S.C. 3501). OMB views the joining of the two Circulars as a step toward coordination and integration of Federal information policy.

DD/A REGISTRY

FILE: BUD-6-AR

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- that the agency is maintaining an information dissemination management system that comports with Section 4(b), above;
- that the appropriate information dissemination products are made available to the depository library program;
- that the agency's information dissemination products and services are necessary for the proper performance of agency functions; and
- that agency mailing lists have been updated.

Note: For the purposes of this Bulletin, the expression "necessary for the proper performance of agency functions" as found in 44 U.S.C. 3504 (the Paperwork Reduction Act) is considered to be equivalent to the expression "necessary in the transaction of the public business required by law of the agency" as found in OMB Circular No. A-3 and 44 U.S.C. 1108.

b. Table of Obligations. The agency will provide a single consolidated table of total agency obligations for periodicals, non-recurring publications, machine-readable data files (including CD-ROMs), software, online database services, and electronic bulletin boards, both current and proposed, for Fiscal Years 1988 through 1991, according to the exhibit.

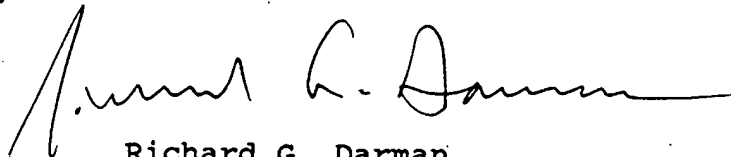
6. Submission Date and Address. All required materials should be submitted by [60 days from issue date]. Please address an original and one copy of all materials to:

Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503.

Attention: Information Policy Branch
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Room 3235 New Executive Office Building.

7. OMB Actions on Reports. OMB will respond to the agency's report within 45 days of receipt.

8. Inquiries. General inquiries concerning this Bulletin and OMB Circular No. A-3 should be addressed to J. Timothy Sprehe, Information Policy Branch, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, (202) 395-4814.



Richard G. Darman
Director

Attachments

Attachment A
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Excerpts from Federal Register Notice of June 15, 1989
Second Advance Notice of Further Policy Development
on Dissemination of Information

[NOTE: On January 4, 1989, OMB published for comment an Advance Notice of Further Policy Development on Dissemination of Information (54 Federal Register 214-220), which among other things proposed to incorporate OMB Circular No. A-3 with some changes into OMB Circular No. A-130, Management of Federal Information Resources. On June 15, 1989, OMB published for comment a Second Advance Notice of Further Policy Development on Dissemination of Information (54 Federal Register 25554-25559), which summarized comments to the January 4 notice and gave OMB's reaction to comments. With respect to OMB Circular No. A-3, the June 15 notice stated the following.]

OMB Reaction: Following are OMB reactions to comments on incorporation of OMB Circular No. A-3.

- OMB agrees that Federal statistical publications must be protected from both actual and apparent tampering, and that therefore the exclusion of statistical publications from management control reporting should not be dropped but should be continued; that is, the policy in existing OMB Circular No. A-3 should be retained.
- OMB believes OMB Circular No. A-3, or any revision thereto, should be incorporated into OMB Circular No. A-130. The reason is that a basic purpose of the Paperwork Reduction Act is to coordinate, integrate, and make uniform Federal information policies and practices. (44 U.S.C. 3501) OMB views the joining of the two Circulars as a step toward coordination and integration of Federal information policy, and believes that the Paperwork Reduction Act and other authorities cited in Section 3 of OMB Circular No. A-130 are adequate legal foundation for extending coverage to include information products other than periodicals.
- OMB agrees that 44 U.S.C. 1108 refers only to periodicals and is not a statutory basis for requiring reporting on electronic information products. However, the Paperwork Reduction Act and other authorities cited in Section 3 of OMB Circular No. A-130 are an adequate basis for requiring such reporting.

b) the agency has in place an effective management system for information dissemination products, including a current inventory.

- For Fiscal Year 1989, OMB plans to issue a bulletin within the next 60 days detailing proposed changes to OMB Circular No. A-3 and requesting the single table and certifications. OMB intends to write to agencies in response to the Fiscal Year 1989 bulletin, indicating whether their responses are in conformity with 44 U.S.C. 1108. For subsequent years, OMB plans to incorporate reporting into the annual budget process.

Attachment B
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Exhibit

AGENCY: _____

CONTACT PERSON:
Name _____
Office _____
Telephone _____

OBLIGATIONS FOR AGENCY INFORMATION DISSEMINATION PRODUCTS AND SERVICES
(in thousands of dollars)

	<u>FY 1988</u>	<u>FY 1989</u>	<u>FY 1990</u>	<u>FY 1991</u>
Periodicals	_____	_____	_____	_____
Non-Recurring Publications	_____	_____	_____	_____
SUBTOTALS				
Machine-Readable Data Files	_____	_____	_____	_____
Software Files	_____	_____	_____	_____
Online Database Services	_____	_____	_____	_____
Electronic Bulletin Boards	_____	_____	_____	_____
SUBTOTALS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTALS	_____	_____	_____	_____